

period and sharing rate, the contracting officer must consider the following, as appropriate, and must insert supporting rationale in the contract file:

- (1) Extent of the change.
- (2) Complexity of the change.
- (3) Development risk (*e.g.*, contractor's financial risk).
- (4) Development cost.
- (5) Performance and/or reliability impact.
- (6) Production period remaining at the time of VECP acceptance.
- (7) Number of units affected.
- (h) Contracts for architect-engineer services must require a mandatory value engineering program to reduce total ownership cost in accordance with 48.101(b)(2). However, there must be no sharing of value engineering savings in contracts for architect-engineer services.

(i) Agencies shall establish procedures for funding and payment of the contractor's share of collateral savings and future contract savings.

[48 FR 42443, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 51 FR 2666, Jan. 17, 1986; 54 FR 5057, Jan. 31, 1989; 55 FR 3887, Feb. 5, 1990; 61 FR 39221, July 26, 1996; 62 FR 51271, Sept. 30, 1997; 64 FR 51847, Sept. 24, 1999]

#### **48.103 Processing value engineering change proposals.**

(a) Instructions to the contractor for preparing a VECP and submitting it to the Government are included in paragraphs (c) and (d) of the value engineering clauses prescribed in subpart 48.2. Upon receiving a VECP, the contracting officer or other designated official shall promptly process and objectively evaluate the VECP in accordance with agency procedures and shall document the contract file with the rationale for accepting or rejecting the VECP.

(b) The contracting officer is responsible for accepting or rejecting the VECP within 45 days from its receipt by the Government. If the Government will need more time to evaluate the VECP, the contracting officer shall notify the contractor promptly in writing giving the reasons and the anticipated decision date. The contractor may withdraw, in whole or in part, any VECP not accepted by the Government

within the period specified in the VECP. Any VECP may be approved, in whole or in part, by a contract modification incorporating the VECP. Until the effective date of the contract modification, the contractor shall perform in accordance with the existing contract. If the Government accepts the VECP, but properly rejects units subsequently delivered or does not receive units on which a savings share was paid, the contractor shall reimburse the Government for the proportionate share of these payments. If the VECP is not accepted, the contracting officer shall provide the contractor with prompt written notification, explaining the reasons for rejection.

(c) The following Government decisions are unilateral decisions made solely at the discretion of the Government:

(1) The decision to accept or reject a VECP.

(2) The determination of collateral costs or collateral savings.

(3) The decision as to which of the sharing rates applies when *Alternate II* of the clause at 52.248-1, Value Engineering, is used.

(4) The contracting officer's determination of the duration of the sharing period and the contractor's sharing rate.

[48 FR 42443, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 54 FR 5057, Jan. 31, 1989; 64 FR 72449, Dec. 27, 1999]

#### **48.104 Sharing arrangements.**

##### **48.104-1 Determining sharing period.**

(a) Contracting officers must determine discrete sharing periods for each VECP. If more than one VECP is incorporated into a contract, the sharing period for each VECP need not be identical.

(b) The sharing period begins with acceptance of the first unit incorporating the VECP. Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, the end of the sharing period is a specific calendar date that is the later of—

(1) 36 to 60 consecutive months (set at the discretion of the contracting officer for each VECP) after the first unit affected by the VECP is accepted; or

(2) The last scheduled delivery date of an item affected by the VECP under